

REMARKS

I. Formal Matters.

Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that the drawings filed on January 20, 2004, are acceptable. Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and for confirming receipt of a certified copy of Applicant's priority document. And finally, Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references cited via the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on January 20, 2004, as evidenced by his return of an initialled Form PTO-1449 to the office of the undersigned.

II. Claims.

Claims 7-10 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More particularly, the Examiner cites to the language "almost the same voltage." (OA page 2). Claims 7-10 and 15-18 are herein amended to more particularly and distinctly claim the invention. In turn, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7-10 and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is asserted as being proper and respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-18 as allegedly being anticipated by *Norman* (U.S. Patent No. 5,719,589) under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from *Norman* on multiple grounds. With respect to the rejection of claim 1, the Examiner relied upon the disclosure of *Norman*, in Figs. 1, 3 and description from column 5, line 46 to column 8, line 53.

The Examiner asserts that *Norman* discloses "... during a reset period after a scan period for scanning an arbitrary scan line is complete and before scanning the following scan

line is started, applying a *first reset voltage* to all of said *scan lines* and applying a *second reset voltage* that is greater than said first reset voltage to all of said *drive lines*” (OA page 3). More specifically, the Examiner cites to V_R as disclosing the first reset voltage applied to all scan lines and cites to V_C as disclosing the second reset voltage (second reset voltage greater than the first) applied to the drive lines (Examiner *citing* Norman at Fig. 3; col. 5 line 46 to col. 8, line 53; OA page 3).

Does *Norman* teach that V_R is applied to scan lines and V_C is applied to drive lines as asserted by the Examiner? *Norman* teaches that column terminals 14 are *drive lines* which are intermittently *connected to V_C* (col. 7, lines 51-58).

Norman teaches a column rest potential V_C and a row rest potential V_R , “which may or may not be the same . . . potential.” (col. 6, lines 55-58; Fig. 3). In the alternative, *Norman* teaches that “the row rest potential (V_R) should be *higher than* the column rest potential (V_C) . . . for reverse [biasing the diodes].” (col. 7, lines 28-30). *Norman* teaches a rest potential (V_C) applied to drive lines, which is *the same as or lower than* a first potential (V_R).

In contrast, claim 1 requires a second reset voltage applied to drive lines, where that second voltage *is higher than a first voltage*, and where the first voltage is applied to scan lines. Claim 1 of the present application requires application of a reset voltage (V_2) in the *forward direction* whereas the disclosure of *Norman* teaches the production of a *reverse bias* (*Norman* 7, line 35 to column 8, line 52. *In these paragraphs, production of a reverse bias on LEDs that are turned OFF is extensively discussed in particular column 8, lines 20-26*). *Norman* fails to disclose a second voltage higher than a first voltage, wherein the second voltage is applied to drive lines. At least for this deficiency, the rejection of claim 1 as being anticipated by *Norman* under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, *Norman* discloses that all of the LEDs in array 10 are refreshed (by reverse bias) at *irregular* intervals (depending upon images being produced) (column 8, line 27). *Norman* fails to describe a reset period after completion of a scan period and before the start of the scanning of a following scan line as required by claim 1. At least for this deficiency the rejection of claim 1 as being anticipated by *Norman* under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) should be withdrawn

Dependent claims 2-18 are asserted as allowable at least by virtue of dependency from an allowable claim.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

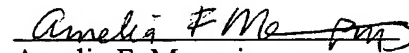
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